स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे) : (क) से (ग) जी नहीं।

(घ) दिल्ली प्रशासन ने बताया है कि उन्हें ऐसी कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

(ङ) जी, नहीं।

Availability of Melagenina on commercial basis

4173. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether any action has been initiated by Government to make available Melagenina the medicine based on Libo-Protein and invented by Dr. Carlose Miarisco, a Culban Gynea cologist, on commercial basis, to benefit about two crores of patients affected by Lucoderma in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): Permission to import Melagenina lotion has been granted by the Drugs Controller (India) to M/s. Cimco Limited, Gwalior.

Grant of an ad-hoc licence for the import of 40,000 bottles of Melagenina lotion from Cuba in favour of the firm has already been recommended to the concerned authority.

Implementation of solatium Fund Scheme

4174. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state what action Government have taken against the officials who are responsible for the tardy implementation of Solatium Fund Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): The Solatium Fund Scheme is being implemented through the District Collectors/Sub Divisional Officers in all the States and Union Territories with Transport Commissioners and Directors of Transport as co-ordinating authorities. These authorities have been advised from time to time for ensuring quick disposal of cases. In order to publicize the availability of financial assistance in hit and run accident cases, particularly to reach the messages to the remotest places also, the Solatium Fund Authority had besides arranging publicity through press and distributing wall posters through D.A.V.P. in all regional languages, have also supplied from time to time to the State agencies the material for publicity through vernacular press. The State Governments have been addressed to improve the implementation of the scheme and take action against officials found wanting in proper implementation.

Discovery of a rare fungus

4175. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vector Central Research Centre in Pondicherry has discovered a rare fungus of immense commercial value which is the source of a life saving drug, in great demand;

(b) if so, whether this discovery has given a chance for Indian drug firms to enter into the world market for the first time in a by way; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and to what extent this drug is likely to be manufactured in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Scientists working at the Vector Control Research Centre, Pondicherry have succeeded in isolating and identifying an active metabolite—Cyclosporine from a fungal isolate. This compound is used as an immunosuppressent to prevent rejection phenomenon in graft-operation. It is an expensive drug and is imported into India. Efforts are underway for commercial production of cyclosposive. As and when it is achieved, it would be possible for the Indian Pharmaceutical firms to enter the world market.